

1801 Park 270 Drive Suite 300 St. Louis, Missouri 63146

March 23, 2020

Elizabeth Hagenmaier EPA Project Coordinator United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 11201 Renner Blvd. Lenexa, KS 66219

Re: Coronavirus Disease 2019 as Potential Force Majeure-Consent Decrees, Unilateral Administrative Orders, and Administrative Orders on Consent

Dear Ms. Hagenmaier:

Present circumstances related to the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in this country compel The Doe Run Resources Corporation (Doe Run) to provide written notice of a potential <u>force majeure</u> occurrence under the Consent Decrees, Unilateral Administrative Orders, and Administrative Orders on Consent (Decrees and Orders), as listed in Attachment 1. As required, this notice follows the initial phone calls made Monday, March 23, 2020.

At the present time, Doe Run does not anticipate any delay in fulfilling its obligations under the Decrees and Orders brought about specifically by COVID-19. Under terms of these Decrees and Orders, Doe Run must either claim <u>force majeure</u> upon first knowledge of COVID-19's effects or suffer the loss of its ability to ever do so. Given these unusual circumstances, Doe Run requests an opportunity to discuss this matter in more detail with US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), before any action is taken in response to this notice.

The force majeure provisions in the Decrees and Orders require:

- 1. Explanation/description of reasons for delay;
- 2. Anticipated duration of delay;
- 3. Actions to prevent/minimize delay;
- 4. Implementation schedule for measures to prevent/mitigate delay or its effect:
- 5. Rationale for attributing delay as force majeure; and
- 6. Doe Run's statement on endangerment to public health, welfare or environment.

Available documentation is also to be provided.

Because the impact of COVID-19 on the Orders and Decrees is so uncertain, Doe Run can only provide general statements on the subjects listed above. If/when future developments increase the likelihood of actual delays, Doe Run will supplement this information.

1. Explanation/Description of Reasons for Delay

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) suggests the following for US businesses to plan for a possible COVID-19 outbreak:

The severity of illness or how many people will fall ill from COVID-19 is unknown at this time. If there is evidence of a COVID-19 outbreak in the U.S., employers should plan to be able to respond in a flexible way to varying levels of severity and be prepared to refine their business response plans as needed.

"Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers, Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019", reviewed on March 12, 2020 at:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html

Fact sheets on COVID-19 from CDC and Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) can be found in the attached Appendix.

2. Anticipated Duration of Delay

At the present time, Doe Run does not anticipate any delay in fulfilling its obligations under the Decrees and Orders. Nonetheless, CDC, DHSS and other health experts remain uncertain as to the extent or severity of COVID-19:

There is much more to learn about the transmissibility, severity, and other features of COVID-19 and investigations are ongoing.

Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers, supra.

3. Actions to Prevent/Minimize Delay

Doe Run is presently reviewing data from national, state and local health officials for timely and accurate information on appropriate responses at each location where operations reside. Doe Run understands that the intensity of an outbreak may differ according to geographic location. St. Francois, Washington, Franklin, Iron and Reynolds Counties' health officials will be contacted regularly for guidance specific to their local communities.

4. Schedule for Implementation of Measures to Prevent or Mitigate the Delay or Its Effects. As noted in a preceding section, Doe Run does not anticipate any delay in fulfilling its obligations under the listed Decrees and Orders. However, if CDC, DHSS and/or local health officials begin to raise concerns over disease severity, impacts in the local communities, and/or possible closures of key facilities, such as schools or retail, Doe Run will contact EPA and take appropriate action to protect its employees and operations.

5. Rationale for Attributing Delay as a Force Majeure Event

Force majeure is an event arising from causes beyond the control of Doe Run, despite Doe Run's best efforts to fulfill the obligation in question. COVID-19's outbreak in China and subsequent spread across the world is clearly beyond the control of Doe Run. Furthermore, as explained above, Doe Run's best efforts will be devoted to assessing the guidance from CDC, DHSS and local health officials in light of its obligations, and providing updates to EPA.

6. Doe Run's Statement on Endangerment to Public Health, Welfare or Environment.

Doe Run believes that a delay due to COVID-19 will not cause or contribute to endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment beyond existing conditions. None of the matters addressed under the Decrees and Orders is so unstable that a delay would significantly alter endangerment at these sites.

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In conclusion, Doe Run does not believe that any delay in its obligations under the Decrees and Order will actually occur. However, with so much uncertainty, Doe Run is compelled to now provide this <u>force majeure</u> notice, given the legal consequences for failure to do so. We again request that EPA discuss these unusual circumstances with Doe Run prior to any response on this notice.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me at 314-453-7132.

Sincerely,

Chris C. Neaville

Asset Development Director

Attachments:

Attachment 1. Consent Decrees and Administrative Orders on Consent

Appendix--COVID-19 Fact Sheets

Chris C. Neavelle

Trustee Contract	Steve Opp PG, OSC Minerals and Geology Program Manager Forest Service Hotena-Lewis and Clark NF pt 406-495-3716 james.s.opp@usda.gov 2880 Skyway Dr Helena, MT 59602.			
	Steve Opp PG, OSC Minerals and Geology Forest Service Helena-Lewis and Clar pr. 406-495-3716 james, sopp@usda.gov 2880 Skyway Dr Helena, MT 59602.	K/N	N/A	N/A
State Contact	Kenth Large, State Project Officer Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) 1225 Cedar Street Helena, Montana 59601 Klarge@mt.gov 406-422-9725	Keith Large, State Project Officer Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) 1225 Cedar Street Helena, Montana 59601 kiarge@nt.gov 406-422-9725	Chrisine Kump-Mitchell, P.E. Environmental Engineer- Engineering Section Waste Management Program 1730 East Elm Street Jefferson City, Mo 65102 christine.kump@dnr.mo.gov	Director Division of Environmental Quality: Missouri Department of Natural Resources 1101 Riverside Drive P.O. Box 899 P.O. Box 899 P.O. Box 809 P.O. Box 809 P.O. Box 809 Recsimile: (573) 751-9277 With electronic copy, to: Ed.Galfrraith@dut.mo.gov
EPA Contact	Roger Hoogerheide USEPA Region 8, Montana Office Federal Building, 10 W. 15th Street, Suite 3200 Helena, Montana 59626 Hoogerheide, Roger@epa.gov 406-422-9725	Roger Hoogerheide USEPA Region 8, Montana Office Federal Building, 10 W, 15th Street, Suite 3200 Helena, Montana 59626 Hoogerheide, Roger@epa.gov 416-422-9725	N/A	Chief. Waste Enforcement and Materials Management Branch. Arr and Waste Management Branch. Division. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Facsimile: 913-551-7201 and Office of Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Facsimile: 913-551-7925 and Mills electronic copy to: Sanders. Steveni@epa.gov and Lininger. Don@epa.gov
Date of Order	2/23/2004	6/16/2011	8/31/2011	12/21/2011
CaseNo.	Block P Mill Tailings Site, Cascade County, Montana	08-2011-0010	ASARCO- MDNR, CV594- 119CC (1994) ASARCO Bank, 05-21207, S.D.Tex, (2008)	Civil Action #4:10-cv-01895- ICH 181 Australment 3:47:2013
Action	UAO- Removal	AOC. Removai	Agreement	Consent
FORCE MAJEURE FPA REGIONS & OTHER AGENCIES	US Dept of Agriculture & EPAVIII & MDEQ	EPA VIII & MDEQ	MDNR	EPA VII & MDNR
Court/Agency	US Dept of Agriculture	ЕРА	MDNR	U.S. District Court- Eastern District of Missouri
Site Name	Block P Tailugs Site, Lowis Clark National Forest, Montana	Barker-Hughesville Superfund Site Cascade and Indith Basin Counties, Montana	Glover	BRRF Brushy Creek Mine & Mill Butck Mine & Mill Casteel Mine & Mill Citcher Mine & Mill Citcher Mine & Will Citcher Wine & Will Citcher Wine & Will West Fork
Location	Block P Mill	Block P Mine	Glover	Multi-Media Consent Decree

Attachment 1. Consent Decrees and Administrative Orders on Consent

Trustee Contact	Lead Project Coordinator (USFWS): David Mosby Environmental Contaminants Specialist Ecological Field Services Station U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 101 Park DeVille Drive #A Columbia, Missouri dave_nosby@fws.gov Project_Coordinator.(MDNR): Eric Gramlich CERCLA/OPA NRDAR Section Wissouri Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176 eric,gramlich@dut mo.gov Roject_Coordinator.(USFS): Travis Haas Regional Environmental Engineer U.S. Forest Service, Eastern Region 626 East Wissonsin Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53202	₹ /2	W/A	N/A
State Contact	X',Y	Johnstian Clark Project Manager Department of Natural Resources DEQ, ERP. Superfund Section Phone: (373) 526-9944 Jonathan Clark@dumo.gov	Johnathan Clark Project Manager Department of Natural Resources DEQ, ERP, Superfund Section Phone: (373) 526-9944 Jonathan Clark@du.mo.gov	Johnathan Clark Project Manager Department of Natural Resources DEQ, Erp, Superfund Scetion Phone: (573) 526-9944 Jonathan Clark@drr.mo.gov
EPA Contact	N/A	Jason Gunter US EPA Region 7 Remedial Project Manager Office: 913-51-73-8 Cell: 913-302-9144 gunter jason@epa.gov	Jason Gunter US EPA Region 7 Remedial Project Manager Office: 913-551-7358 Cell: 913-302-9144 gunter jason@epa.gov	Jason Gunter US EPA Region 7 Remedial Project Manager Office: 913-551-7358 Cell: 913-302-9144 gunter.jason@epa.gov
Date of Order	None - Lodged 02/11/2020 Comment Period closes 04/06/2020	1/29/1997	5/22/2018	3/23/2011
CaseNo.	420-CV-00234	OU-2 AOC 07-97-F-0002 RVFS 13t Amendment 9/5/2012	A18CV502 RLW	Administrat 07-2009-0012 ive Settlement Agreement & Order on Consent for Consent for Action
Action	Consent	0U-2 AOC RVFS	OU-1 Consent Decree	Administrative Settlement Agrecurent & Order on Consent for Removal
FORCE MAJEURE EPA REGIONS & OTHER AGENCIES	USFWS, USFS & MDINR	EPA VII	EPA VII & MDNR	EPA VII
Court/Agency	U.S. Dept of int., acting through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Dept. of Arough the U.S. Forest Service, and State of Missouri	ЕРА	EPA	EP.A
Site Name	SEMO-NRD	St. Francois County Mining Atea	St. Francois County Mining Area (SFCMA), aka Big River Mine Tailings Site, St. Francois County, MO	Federal Tailings Pile
Location	Fferculameum	St., Francois County	St. Francois County	St. Francois County

Trustee Contact	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
State Contact	Carey Bridges, R.G. Deputy Director, Division of Environmental Quality Missouri Department of Natural Resources 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Mo 65101 phone, (373) 751-0763	Valerie Wilder. Chief, Superfund Site Assessment Unit Missouri Department of Natural Resources Superfund Section 1730 Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176 573-751-7880 valerie, wilder@dm.mo.gov	Valerie, Wilder, Chief, Superfund Site Assessment Unit Missouri Department of Natural Resources Superfund Section 1730 Elm Street, Jefforson City, MO 65102-0176 573-751-7880	Naluris, Wildar. Chiek, Superfund Site Assessment Unit Missouri Department of Natural Resources Superfund Section 1730 Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176 573-751-7880 valene, wilder@drw.mo.gov and Assistant Attorney General Agriculture and Environment Division State of Missouri Office of Attorney General 2077 W. High Street Voice, 573-751-8370 Fax: 573-751-8796
EPA Contact	Don Limnger EPA Region 7 913- 551-7724	Steve Kemp, RPM LMSE Branch EPA Region 7 11201 Remor Blvd Lenexa, KS 66219 (913) 551-9194 fax	Liz Hagenmaier, RPM LMSE Branch EPA Region 7 11201 Remer Blvd Lenexa, K.S 66219 (913) 551-7939 telephone (913) 551-9194 fax	N/A
Date of Order	5/8/2007	3/26/2009	10/20/2008	5/22/2012
CaseNo.	07-2007-0008 Medification 1/9/2012	08-5114-CV-SW GAF	CaseNo.6.08-CV 01316-WEB- DWB	CDP
Action	AOC. RCRA	RD/RA Consent Decire	RD/RA Consent Decree	Consont
FORCE MAJEURE EPA REGIONS & OTHER AGENCIES	EPA VII & MDNR	EPA VII & MDNR	EPA VII & MDNR	MDNR
Court/Agency	EPA	U.S. District Court- Western District of Missouri	U.S. District Court - District of Kansas	U.S. District Court- Eastern District of Missouri
Site Name	Pansportation SEMO - Haul Routes AOC	Superfund Site, OU#1	Cherokee County Superfund Site	Sweetwater
Location	Trensportation AOC	Tri-State	Tri-State	Vibumum

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Date of Order	\$7002/05/6	5/2/2007
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Action	AOC- PrelimAsse ss/Site Inspection	Critical Critical
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